

REMARKS***Summary of the Amendment***

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 28 - 55 and 57 - 84 will have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 85 - 131 will have been entered for consideration by the Examiner. Accordingly, claims 85 - 131 are currently pending.

Summary of the Submission

Applicants note that the instant amendment replaces, without prejudice or disclaimer, previously pending claims 28 - 55 and 57 - 84 with new claims 85 - 131. The instant amendment has been prepared to even more clearly recite the subject matter of the instant invention and to avoid potential conflict in the claims.

Further, Applicants note that the amended claims have been revised to remove the term “arranged obliquely,” with respect to the headbox arrangement, and to clarify that the arrangement is merely at an angle to the horizontal reference, and this angle can be 0°, as recited in the dependent claims. Moreover, the guidance of the second wire belt after the second deflection device is not recited in the independent claims.

Applicants further note that new claim 107 generally corresponds to allowed claim 55.

Summary of the Official Action

In the final Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that claims 55, 57, 58, 70 - 82,

and 84 are allowed and that claim 59 and 60 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if presented in an independent form that include all of the features of its base claim and any intervening claim. The Examiner has rejected claims 28 - 54, 61 - 69, and 83 over the art of record. By the present amendment and remarks, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome, and respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

Acknowledgment of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 55, 57, 58, 70 - 82, and 84 are allowed. Applicants further acknowledge that claims 59 and 60 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if presented in independent form to include all of the features of its base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, by the present amendment, claim 84 has been presented in independent and allowable form.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is Moot

Applicants traverse the rejections over the art of record in view of the instant submission of new claims 85 - 131 to replace, without prejudice or disclaimer, previously pending claims 28 - 55 and 57 - 84, and submit that the previous rejection is moot in view of the instant submission.

Accordingly, examination of new claims 85 - 131 is requested in the instant Request for Continued Examination, as is an indication that the instant application and pending claims

are allowable.

Application is Allowable

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that each and every pending claim of the present invention meets the requirements for patentability under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103, and respectfully request the Examiner to indicate allowance of each and every pending claim of the present invention.

Authorization to Charge Deposit Account

The Commissioner is authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 19 - 0089 any necessary fees, including any extensions of time fees required to place the application in condition for allowance by Examiner's Amendment, in order to maintain pendency of this application.

CONCLUSION

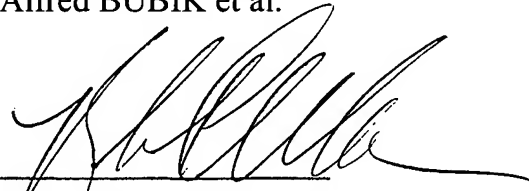
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record, either taken alone or in any proper combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious the Applicants' invention, as recited in each of claims 85 - 131. The applied references of record have been discussed and distinguished, while significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art,

should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,
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March 4, 2004
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